

1717 K St. NW, Suite 900 Washington, D.C. 20006.

Tel 202 862 4343 Fax 202 776 0136

VICTIMS SUE LIBYAN WARLORD, WHO IS ALSO A U.S. CITIZEN, AND UAE FOR WAR CRIMES

For Immediate Release Feb. 10, 2020

Media contact: Tess Rose (tr@martinmcmahonlaw.com) 202-862-4343

Note: Media who wish to be put in touch directly with victims involved in the lawsuit should contact the contact above.

WASHINGTON — Libyan citizens whose relatives have been murdered, injured or faced attempted killings today filed a federal lawsuit today against Libyan warlord Khalifa Hifter and United Arab Emirates government for their roles in committing war crimes in Libya. Hifter is a U.S. citizen.

The lawsuit seeks \$1 billion in damages and was filed in U.S. District Court in Washington, D.C. not far from where Hifter, a former general for Muammar Gaddafi, lived for 20 years and still maintains a residence.

By filing the lawsuit in Washington, the plaintiffs will bring to light the serious human rights abuses, extrajudicial killings and torture which defendants have engaged in with absolute impunity and without fear of accountability.

"Defendants have encouraged, ordered, and/or engaged in criminal conduct which constitutes war crimes and specifically torture. This inhumane conduct violates the Fourth Geneva Convention, the United Nations Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and the Law of Nations Clause in the U.S. Constitution," the lawsuit states.

The lawsuit was filed by Martin F. McMahon & Associates on behalf of six families whose relatives were injured or murdered by the defendants.

"Hifter is not just a war criminal, but also a U.S. citizen with assets and family members in the United States. He can and will be held accountable for his illegal and barbaric acts," said McMahon, who is the managing partner of his firm's Transnational Business Attorneys Group (TBA Group) which has extensive experience in civil and criminal litigation across the globe.

Hifter, his military henchmen and his foreign enablers are responsible for murders, maiming, kidnapping, torture, ethnic cleansing and war crimes. Since 2014, Hifter and his forces have killed

Disseminated by Mercury Public Affairs LLC, a registered foreign agent, on behalf of the Government of National Accord Libya, Office of the Prime Minister. More information is on file with the dept. Of justice, Washington, DC.

nearly 12,000 Libyans, injured nearly 10,000 and displaced 300,000, the lawsuit notes. In April, he launched a military campaign to overthrow the Libya's internationally recognized Government of National Accord.

Hifter could not have inflicted such horror on the Libyan people without the extensive encouragement, support and financial backing of the UAE government. Hifter's attacks have frequently targeted civilians, including neighborhoods, ambulances and field hospitals.

"UAE officials knew exactly what the Hifter Regime would use the drones for, i.e., the killing of Libyan civilians and the incineration of villages who have been perceived to be hostile to the Hifter Regime," the lawsuit states.

###